

# Supervisor Romaine Announces Illegal Overcrowded "Rooming House" Condemned in Centereach

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**Farmingville, NY** - Supervisor Ed Romaine has announced that Brookhaven Town inspectors condemned a Centereach "rooming house" for illegal occupancy on September 11 and issued numerous violations after finding that the premises had no smoke or carbon monoxide detectors, a roach infestation and overcrowding. Brookhaven Town Fire Marshals went to the house at 38 South Washington Drive after being notified by the Farmingville Fire Department, who responded to the location when a tenant in the home set off an exterminating fogger ("bomb") without notifying the other tenants. The Fire Marshals determined an illegal occupancy and notified the Building Department.

The Fire Marshals and Building Department inspectors issued summonses for rooms with no opening for emergency escape and rescue, no smoke detectors, no carbon monoxide detectors, infestation, illegal occupancy and building without a permit. The owner, who does not live in the house, was present. Three tenants were also present and provided with notices for alternative housing. Notices were posted on the front door as well.

"Landlords who violate our Town code create a dangerous situation for both their tenants and the residents who live nearby," said Supervisor Romaine. "Taking action on houses like this sends a clear message that we're cleaning up Brookhaven by tightening our housing laws, increasing fines, strictly enforcing our codes and pursuing the maximum allowable punishment."

Earlier this week, Supervisor Romaine announced the launch of a mobile phone app to be used by residents as the newest weapon against illegal multi-family housing and other housing violations. Brookhaven Town's new mobile phone app, which is the first of its kind on Long Island, will allow residents to immediately report housing and property violations as they see them, helping to increase enforcement of housing codes within our communities. The app is available now for both Apple iPhones and Android mobile phones. With simple to fill-in fields, drop down menus of violations and automated e-mail, this software application is a powerful weapon in the Town's arsenal for addressing code violations, and improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

To download the free mobile app, please visit the Town's website at [www.brookhaven.org](http://www.brookhaven.org) from a mobile device. Residents can also call 451-TOWN between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:30 pm to report housing violations. For more information or to access the Town's Code Book, go to [www.brookhaven.org](http://www.brookhaven.org).

## **Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor**

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